



TESTIMONY OF  
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Public Health Committee  
February 20, 2013

***SB 61 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE TO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL***

Good Day to the Co-Chairs and members of the Public Health Committee. I am Verna Bernard-Jones and I am a school nurse at West Middle School in Hartford. I'm also President of the Hartford Federation of Teachers Health Professionals, a local union representing 65 school nurses and health professionals employed in the Hartford school district. I am writing testimony in opposition to SB 61.

I have been a school nurse for more than 18 years and in those years I have only had 2 incidents of potential anaphylaxis. This is due to the many safe guards in place in most Connecticut school districts:

1. There are district policies and procedures in place.
2. Standing Medical Orders from the Medical Advisor that allow the School Nurse to administer epinephrine if in his/her assessment the student is having an allergic reaction.
3. Individualized Healthcare Plan for the student with a known allergy that may lead to anaphylaxis
4. An Emergency Care Plan that is shared with school staff.

Having **written medical orders** provide the safety net for nurses and students. The mandate therefore, should be that **ALL** school districts have standing medical orders for treatment of anaphylaxis.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to SB 61. Should you have any questions or require more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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